CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. The old I.G. Farben plant at Brzeg Dolny (Dyhernfurth), about 20 km. northwest of Wroclaw (Breslau), is being rebuilt. The plant has been renamed Rokita. During the summer of 1954, about 20 or 30% of the old plant was back in operation and construction crews were working on the remainder. It is estimated that from 300 to 500 workers per shift are employed both in operating the rebuilt sections of the plant and on new construction work. It is believed that the plant was working three shifts a day.

2. In one section of the Rokita installation, a pilot plant has been constructed for the production of Gammexan BHC, an insecticide similar to DDT. This BHC is produced by the photochlorinating method (Photochlorierung-Prozess). In December 1954, the pilot plant produced about 250 kg. of raw BHC containing about 14% Gamma per day. Production at the pilot plant will probably be expanded in the future.

3. One section of the Rokita plant is engaged in the production of Glycol and polyglycol from alcohol. Production is being carried out in the following steps:

Alcohol → Ethylene → Ethylene Chlorohydrin → Glycol and Polyglycol

The production process used is an old-fashioned one but it is made necessary by the fact that no natural gas, which is necessary for the newer process, is available in Silesia. The Poles are probably using the glycol and polyglycol to manufacture resins and synthetic plastics. Production figures for this section of the plant are not available but it is known that several additional combustion furnaces were put into operation during the summer of 1954.

4. During recent years, large quantities of electrolytic equipment with mercury cells (Quecksilberzellen) were delivered to the Rokita plant from East Germany. An electric rectifier and an old-style motor generator for the electrolytic equipment have also been delivered to the plant from the USSR. The electric rectifier is adjusted to convert AC current to DC. The electrolytic

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equipment installed in the Rokita plant is being used to produce chlorine. During the summer of 1954, the plant was capable of producing from 30 to 50 tons of chlorine a day, but production has probably been expanded to some extent since then. Additional shipments of electrolytic equipment from East Germany were expected.

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